

Good News in School District 11

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Congratulations to Staff and Students

Congratulations to 100% Schools

Rick Hughes, director of D-11's **Food & Nutrition Services**, congratulates **West Middle School, Bates Elementary, Scott Elementary, Tesla Educational Opportunity Center and Catering Kitchen, Washington Elementary, Jackson Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Midland Elementary and Longfellow Elementary** for scoring 100% from the El Paso County Health Department on their recent Food Establishment Inspection Reports! Congratulations to the following employees for their excellence and leadership in the area of food safety: **Violet Miller, Debra Wilson, Catherine Gilsey, Melinda Robertson, Donna Jones, Roma Andrews, Ellen Sherman, Leah Agee, Lea Woodward, Jerry Maez, Maria Cipres-Moreno, Dee Rodriguez, Mark Ledesma, Lois Miller, Dawn Eaglen, Crystal Hohos, Debra Garcia, Teresa Casey, Karl Frazier, Connie Rush, Lisa Alt, Katherine Carlson, Darcy Hilty, Joyce Johnston, Judy Anderson, Jeanette O'Neil, Sharon Sides and Heather Dolan.**

Palmer Student Wins Silver Medal at National Level



Scholastics Art and Writing Awards are held each year at the state level. **Palmer High School** student **Claire O'Connor** was a Gold winner and went to national competition, where she received a Silver award. Claire will be recognized at Carnegie Hall! Claire and her art teachers, **Claudia Tucker** (pictured with Claire) and **Karla Lee-Estrada**, will go to New York for the celebration. Keynote speakers at past awards celebration have included Whoopi Goldberg, Glen Close and Rosie O'Donnell. Claire is also invited to attend workshops held by established artists.

Claire received the silver medal for her design of the "Black Widow" fiber dress, which is made of paper.

Holmes Students Win National Recognition

Holmes Middle School students have won National PTA recognition for their Reflections entries: **Aaliyah Rodriguez**, dance choreography, and **Justin Ramsey**, film production. Both students won National PTA Awards of Merit.

The Reflections Program was started in 1969 by **Mary Lou Anderson**, who served as Colorado PTA president at the time. The program has encouraged millions of students to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to create and submit works of art in six areas: literature, dance choreography, musical composition, photography, film/video production, and the visual arts, including drawing, painting and print making.

Doherty Automotive Wins Again!



The **Doherty High School** automotive program took top honors at the state level and will represent Colorado at the 2009 National FORD/AAA Student Auto Skills competition this June in Dearborn, MI. Doherty placed first in all three events and had the only perfect car at the state level.

Congratulations to **Charles Duran** and **Dylan Keyes**, pictured above, who took first place in hands-on competition and first place in high team score, and to the Doherty High School Automotive Program seniors/juniors, who took first in the written test.

According to Doherty automotive teacher **Brad Wheaton**, **Dylan** and **Chaz** worked very hard this semester and were a great team. Both received over \$60,000 in scholarships on May 9. At this point, they have an automotive scholarship for any top-rated automotive school in the county.

SAIL West Students Win State Competition

Four West Middle School students will travel to Michigan State University for the International Future Problem Solving competition on May 28, 2009. These students will compete

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More Student Awards

> Continued ... **SAIL West Students Win State Competition** against teams from Australia, Hong Kong and Korea.

Future Problem Solving (FPS) is an international program designed to promote social awareness, problem solving and teamwork. Students in grades 4-12 study current situations and frame and solve similar problems as they may appear in the near future. Students are given problems to solve on a weekly basis.

Josh Munson, Kate Wolf, Helen Stritzel and Dylan Roche competed at the state level of FPS on April 18. They placed first out of all Colorado middle-level teams. **Anne Wolf** is the District 11 FPS coach and will accompany the West Middle School students to Michigan. Coincidentally, the International Future Problem Solving Bowl at Michigan State University will focus on the topic of pandemics.

The team is looking for corporate sponsorships to help pay the \$2,000 cost of their trip. Corporate and community sponsors should contact **Eric Hamilton** at (719) 328-3929 for more details. For additional information on the West Middle School Future Problem Solving Team, please contact Anne Wolf at wolfav@d11.org or 328-5570 or Eric Hamilton at hamileb@d11.org or 328-3929.

CIVA Frisbee Team Finishes Fourth in State

Ultimate Frisbee Championships were held in Denver the weekend of May 1. **CIVA Charter School's** team of 22 students finished fourth in the state! Not bad for a second-year team. The CIVA Ravens went 12-4 in the regular season.

Palmer Student Will Participate in Art Seminar

Karla Lee-Estrada, Palmer High School art teacher, congratulates student Lucy Livesay for being selected as one of the scholarship recipients for the 2009 Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation summer seminar conducted on the Colorado College (CC) campus. This is a national program that selects only the best portfolios submitted by high school juniors. Last year, there were no recipients from Colorado. Lucy is carrying on a Palmer tradition in this area: Rita Lienova, 2006, and Lauren Nash, 2007, were also scholarship recipients.

The Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation Summer Seminar is a scholarship program (full tuition, room and board and all seminar-related expenses, **excluding transportation**) available nationally to artistically gifted high school juniors in public and private schools. The seminar is designed as an art institute offering an intensive visual art studio program for the students. This two-week program allows each student to gain a stronger foundation of skills and understanding in the visual arts through experiencing college-level drawing and painting classes in a group setting. Artists-in-residence serve as the primary instructors. Students live in a dormitory, eat all meals in the dining hall and have access to all campus facilities. Sessions concerning careers in art, the development of a portfolio, and small group discussions with artists sharing their unique insights, technical expertise and commitment to art will be included. Students will also enjoy a full schedule of evening activities. Trips are planned to draw and paint in the mountains, visit area museums, and sightsee in the Pikes Peak area.

Palmer Student Wins Boettcher Scholarship



Palmer High School senior Gergana Kostadinova is a Boettcher Foundation Scholarship winner. Gergana has distinguished herself through superior scholastic ability, ranking in the top 5 percent of her graduating class. Gergana has consistently demonstrated leadership and involvement, played tennis and volley ball for Palmer

and served as student body president. Her cabinet advisor, **Kathleen Lynch-Neveu**, says, "Gergana's leadership skills are well-honed and remarkable. She is able to accomplish many things without being discourteous or demanding. She leads by excellent example and by lending support. She does not allow others to lead her off course, but will offer her time and effort to anyone who needs help." Gergana is always at the forefront of organizing dances, assemblies and Care and Share food drives for the needy. She leads with authority, including everyone in the process and giving high praise to those who assist her. Gergana made unselfish contributions of time, energy and creativity to Starsmore Discovery Center, helping to preserve and enhance the natural, scenic and historic resources of North Cheyenne Cañon Park.

Gergana will attend the University of Denver in the fall.

Doherty Student Wins Boettcher Scholarship



Paige Clarke, **Doherty High School's** most recent Boettcher recipient, truly exemplifies the qualities of a Boettcher Scholar. Ranked in the top 3 percent of her class, Paige's transcript of 26 AP and Honors credits testifies to her inquisitive nature and incredible work ethic. Paige is also a natural athlete who has

participated in track throughout high school. She has been an active member of DECA along with the city-sponsored Pikes Peak Youth Council. Last year, the youth council chose April 20, the anniversary of several national tragedies, including Columbine, to encourage students across the region to take part in "Change Your Way Day." This year, Paige, who serves as secretary, wanted to create something with a different impact. The group has raised \$1,750, which will be distributed as two college scholarships to local seniors who respond to the essay topic "The Power of You."

Paige is an innovator and consensus builder. For example, this fall she proposed that the DECA club host a tailgate party for Doherty's first football game. She wanted to start off the year infusing the club with energy and

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Student Awards and School News

> Continued ... Doherty Boettcher Winner

purpose, drawing new members in. The event was a huge success (over 500 students attended) and raised \$2,600 to help fund future events. Paige will attend the University of Denver with a major in international business, which will eventually put her in a position to impact the quality of life in South America through collaboration with local companies to strengthen regional economies and improve the standard of living of people who currently live a life of subsistence.

Kathryn Fruh, Doherty post-graduate counselor, says, "Given Paige's leadership skills and warm compassion for others, she will make the most of the many opportunities the Boettcher Scholarship will present her."

Lincoln Elementary School Celebrates Cinco de Mayo



During the 08-09 school year, the **Lincoln** kindergarten students in **Karen Adams'** and **Cassie Fredrickson's** classes learned many Spanish words and phrases. To celebrate Cinco de Mayo, the students made serapes, piñatas and sombreros. On May 5, parents, students and Lincoln staff members celebrated the holiday by dancing "La Raspa," breaking a piñata and eating a variety of Mexican food.

Wasson Shines at Service-Learning Awards

On April 14, Colorado College held their annual Evening of Recognition for D-11 teachers and students involved in Service-Learning. **Wasson High School** was well-represented that evening by **Brett Derickson** and **Kelly Stroup's** Public Achievement class and **Theresa James'** Service-Learning Advisory Council (SLAC) class. Each year, Colorado College recognizes three students in D-11 for their work in Service-Learning. Wasson students have received two of the three awards for the past two years. Dionna Berkholder, Wasson sophomore, received the Leadership Award for her role in SLAC. Senior Stephen Nuytten received the Outstanding Commitment & Initiative Award for his role in Public Achievement. Junior Eva Orozco was nominated for the Outstanding Commitment & Initiative Award for her role in Public Achievement. SLAC was nominated for the Civically Engaging Students Award and the Incorporating Youth Voice Award and won the Genuine Community Need Award for their efforts in reforming Wasson's Saturday Academy.

Jenkins Jazz Is Rated Superior

Wayne Hoey, Jenkins director of bands, congratulates the **Jenkins Middle School** Jazz Ensemble for receiving a superior rating from the three adjudicators at the Skyline Jazz Festival in Longmont on May 1.

Madison Fourth Grade Presents Night of the Notables



Madison fourth-grade students in **Carolyn Johnson's** and **Debbie Kachel's** classes presented "Night of the Notables" April 28. The students researched historical Coloradoans such as Molly Brown and General William Jackson Palmer and then "became" their characters in first-person presentations. Parents could push a button to bring a character to life to describe his/her life and accomplishments. This is the sixth year of this annual event, and it is a much anticipated, dramatic culminating activity for Colorado History at Madison Elementary School.

Coronado and Wasson Place First In Math Competition

Coronado and **Wasson** high schools tied for first place in El Paso County in Colorado Math League competition and 12th place in the state, well within the top half of the state's fully participating high schools! Congratulations to the students of both schools and their math departments.

A Coronado student tied for eighth place in the state – Peter Jaron. Other high-scoring Coronado students who participated in Colorado Math League competition are Devin Kimball, Garrett Seeman, Katie MacMillan and Kyle Yeh. The math club advisors are **Ileana Del Valle** and **John Morris**.

Wasson congratulates all math students who participated this year. Students who scored 3+ on all three first-semester competitions are: Ross Krischel (13 points), Daniel Wilson (10), Benjamin Birhenberger (9), Alex Ellis (9) and Yang Lin (9). Students who scored 3+ on all three second-semester competitions are: Daniel Weis (12 points), Derek Linan (11), Jeremy Logan (11), Matt Davidson (10), Mollie Brauer (8) and Ben Ghabriel (8). **Karen Jordan** is the Wasson Math Club advisor.

Russell Middle School Honors Former Students



The **Russell** Wall of Fame Committee announces this year's inductees: **John Corlis**, film composer/song writer; **Bo Hutchinson**, firefighter/paramedic who was himself a child burn victim; **Andrea Price**, clinical speech pathologist; and **Meredith Murray**, wardrobe and costume designer for TV/movies, who was honored posthumously. The Russell staff, students and community are very proud of these alumni.

More Student Awards and News

Doherty Congratulates Rotary Champions

Christopher Noll, athletic director/business manager at **Doherty**, congratulates this year's Rotary Champions. Each year, El Paso and Teller county schools nominate one student-athlete from each of the sports they offer. The student-athlete must excel academically and athletically as well as be a good citizen and display leadership qualities.

At this year's Colorado Springs Rotary Champions banquet, 32 schools were represented. The Rotarians select a medallion winner in each sport as well as an overall male and female student-athlete of the year. **Doherty** was represented in 21 of the 24 sports, and six students won medallions: Maria Kjoson (basketball), Ashley Bonner (softball), Serena Manigold (tennis), Logan Keller (tennis), Vaness Gemignani (volleyball) and Sara Moldenhauer (gymnastics).

Coronado's Rotary Champions Are Recognized

Dave Howard, **Coronado High School** athletic director/business manager, offers congratulations to **Coronado** senior LaTraia Scott, the female Scholar-Athlete of the Year at the 2009 Rotary Champions banquet May 12. LaTraia is only the second Coronado female (Jessica Stratton, 1998) to win this prestigious award. LaTraia receives a \$5,000 college scholarship. She is ranked sixth in the class of 2009 and has a 4.5 GPA. She is the defending state champion in the 100 meters and is currently ranked first in Colorado in the 100 m and 200 m!

Other Coronado student-athletes to be congratulated are: Hannah Green (cross country), Andrew Hugill (cross country), Adam Kloos (football), Colin Tirenay (golf), Kyle Yeh (soccer), Krista Albers (softball), Brett Askinas (tennis), Melissa Lovato (tennis), Jordan Sveen (volleyball), Alex Timberlake (baseball), Kayleigh Lacey (golf), Megan Hansen (soccer), Tim O'Connell (swimming), LaTraia Scott (track), Travis Scott (track), Ryan Schmidt (basketball), Alexis Rodarmel (swimming) and Dusty Solis (wrestling).

West Students Lift Off in Space Simulation



*Eighth-grade students at West Middle School participated in NASA space simulations the week of May 18. The students have worked toward this for three years in the Space and Technology elective that is taught by NASA Fellow **Ranganath Weiner**. Students studied the history of flight, astronomy, aerodynamics, and satellite technology in order to launch the space shuttle, orbit the Earth, and then safely land the shuttle back on Earth. Students dressed in flight suits donated by Strategic Air Command and used original-style head sets to run through the flight checklists from actual NASA flight manuals. The control panels and computer tower were original technology from the Apollo 13 era donated by the Johnson Space Center.*

D-11 Bulletin Board

CSEA Dues Revocation and Membership Drop Timelines for the 2009-2010 School Year

CSEA non-members: Teachers who have a current Dues Revocation form on file with CSEA and the District 11 payroll office do not need to sign one this year.

July 20, 2009: Dues Revocation forms will be available at the District 11 payroll office and at CSEA.

August 10, 2009, 4:00 p.m.: Dues Revocation forms must be signed in order not to have dues withheld from the first paycheck.

September 1, 2009: First paycheck of the 2009-2010 school year.

September 16, 2009, 4:00 p.m.: Deadline to revoke dues for the 2009-2010 school year.

For those teachers who revoke dues after August 10 but on or before September 16 and, therefore, have dues withheld from their September 1 paycheck, CSEA will issue refunds.

CSEA members: Teachers who are currently members of CSEA may complete a Membership Drop form if they wish to waive membership benefits and dues responsibility. CSEA members may not complete a Dues Revocation form.

August 3, 2009: Membership drop forms will be available at CSEA.

September 1, 2009: First paycheck of the 2009-2010 school year.

September 10, 2009, 4:00 p.m.: Deadline to waive membership benefits and discontinue dues responsibility for the 2009-2010 school year.

Monroe Hosts Family Nights for Spanish-Speaking Families



*Monroe held its final Spanish-speaking Family Night on May 14 from 5 to 8 p.m. Parents received a presentation from Community Liaison **Benjamin Gallegos-Pardo** on summer resources in the community. Social Worker **Leslie Ruiz** presented information on how to continue supporting literacy and language development during the summer vacation. Everyone was treated to a special meal from Tres Margaritas Restaurant and enjoyed a wonderful presentation by the **Irving Middle School** Folkloric Dancers. Muchas gracias to the Colorado Department of Education and the **D-11 Title I Office** for making these family nights and presentations possible!*

Doherty AVID Class Wins Volunteer Award

The **Doherty High School** AVID class is the proud winner of the 2009 Pikes Peak Regional Volunteer Day Youth Service Award for their partnership with Habitat for Humanities.